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PROGRAM

CBS Evening News

STATION WDVM TV

CBS Network

DATE

July 18, 1985

7:00 PM

CITY

Washington, DC

SUBJECT

CIA Activities

DAN RATHER: The House today passed and sent to the Senate a secret fiscal - '86 budget for the CIA and other intelligence agencies. Few details, few numbers, few explanations were given. We do know that, among other things, the CIA is engaged in a well-publicized secret war in Central America, a war commanded not by any Army general, but by a 72-year-old former Wall Street lawyer.

Pentagon correspondent David Martin profiles Casey's CIA.

DAVID MARTIN: Lights burn late at the CIA. This was one of the first buildings to go on alert last month when TWA Flight 847 was hijacked.

The U.S. rushed a 20-man counter-terrorist team to Sicily to prepare for a possible rescue mission. More than half the team came from the CIA. A rescue was never attempted, but the episode shows how deeply involved the CIA is in the battle against terrorism. That is only one of the battles to which the CIA is committing new forces.

CIA is nearing completion of its biggest buildup since the Vietnam War, a buildup run by William Casey, Director of Central Intelligence. His close ties to the President, combined with recorded increases in the intelligence budget, have made Casey perhaps the most powerful CIA Director since Allen Dulles.

WALTER HUDDLESTON: CIA Director Bill Casey is certainly of the old school, and he believes that the agency should be a force and should be an entity to deal with throughout the world.